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TITLE: "Telechemistry" Projecting Laboratory Expertise  
to a Deployed TAML

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# Mid-Term Report



PROPOSAL NO.: 2002011100

TITLE: "Telechemistry" Projecting laboratory expertise to a deployed TAML

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## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Significant progress has been made on the Telemedicine initiative entitled 'Telechemistry - Projecting Laboratory Expertise to a Deployed TAML'. All equipment identified in the proposal has been purchased. All contracts have been let and the execution of the proposal budget is on track. However, The project is suffering from a series of events that have delayed the delivery and training on the equipment. These will be discussed in detail in the Problems area of the report. The delay has put the project 2 months behind schedule. Therefore no testing of the proposed system has been conducted. A review of the proposed schedule has identified areas where we can make up the time lost. This will be addressed in the 2nd half project life cycle portion of the report. The equipment on hand has been tested and operates as expected. Once a delivery and training schedule has been coordinated with the user it is expected that the protocol will be completed in relatively short order. A comprehensive Microsoft Project file has been filed seperately providing in depth information on the status of the project, resource and schedule-wise. No performance data is yet available.

PI Evaluation: Project Accomplishments Close to Proposal

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## PROBLEMS/ISSUES

Problems associated with the subject proposal are in the area of schedule. Due to the user unit (520th TAML) being deployed during Operation Iraqi Freedom, coordination time was lost. The unit has been refitting and is undergoing a planned reorganization since their return. Appropriately, this protocol has not been high on the unit priority list. It is only now that we are completing the necessary coordination necessary for successful completion of the protocol. In addition a delay in obtaining a signed Operational Needs Statement (ONS) and Request for Service (RFS), the fielding and activation of the equipment has been delayed. The PI was unaware of the process to obtain approval to purchase and activate satellite communication equipment. This resulted in the ONS and RFS being written late in the cycle allowing insufficient time to obtain, activate and deliver the equipment to the user on the schedule initially proposed. The ONS for the Iridium phones was no longer necessary due to available equipment within USAMRMC that is to be used during the testing and validation phase. The ONS to obtain the INMARSAT

terminals was approved in December of '03. Subsequent to the ONS approval a RFS was sent to the G3, Army, for authorization of activation. We are currently awaiting authorization. It is estimated that the delays will result in a 2 month shift in the schedule. This is reflected on the Gantt chart filed separately with TATRC.

**PI's Evaluation:** Project Accomplishments Close to Proposal  
Project encountered no significant problems/issues

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## Second Half Project LifeCycle

The second half of the program will commence with the delivery, installation and training on the procured equipment. Delivery is tentatively scheduled for mid February 2004, followed immediately by installation and training. This is pending approval by the 520th TAML chain of command and is subject to change based on their TOE mission requirements. Subsequent to training the Proof of concept and concept validation phases will be completed. Tentative plans have these phases running from mid-March to mid-April 2004 and mid-April to mid-June respectively, subject to TAML availability. The plan culminates in a final report and proposed publication in September 2004. There is a significant amount of slack purposely built into the schedule to allow for the limited availability of the TAML. This should allow for the program to remain on schedule for the remainder of the project timeline. A comprehensive program plan has been provided to TATRC separately and is available on AKO at [https://www.us.army.mil/portal/jhtml/dc/index.jhtml?\\_DARGS=/portal/jhtml/customization/kcc.jhtml.1\\_A&\\_DAV=-1](https://www.us.army.mil/portal/jhtml/dc/index.jhtml?_DARGS=/portal/jhtml/customization/kcc.jhtml.1_A&_DAV=-1)

**PI's Evaluation:** Project Plan is close to Proposal

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## Deliverable Update

The deliverable in the case of the Telechemistry proposal is to provide the capability to communicate, real-time, with a deployed military medical/environmental laboratory and assist them in the interpretation of complex data, troubleshoot equipment to maximize their up-time and provide a means of remotely operating their analytical equipment, if needed. In this way the proposal provides benefits clinical-diagnostic, wellness, prevention, treatment and administrative operations. Success of the proposal will be assessed in both the Proof of Concept and Concept Validation Phases. In the Proof of Concept the assessment is qualitative. Does the lab/communication equipment interface work? Does the equipment allow equipment to interface and allow remote operators to see, real-time, what the local operator sees? Can the remote operator see the information from the remote site in sufficient detail to assist the local operator in necessary functions? In the Concept validation phase the assessment will be quantitative. Each intended goal will have task, condition and standards written to measure success. Minimally standards will be set for communication up time, analytical equipment up-time, Correct interpretation of remotely transmitted data after analysis of an unknown, time interval to

correctly diagnose and repair a malfunction of analytical equipment within the repair capability of the local operator, and the remote loading of software or patches to correct computer generated problems. The final report will identify the performance parameters and the results. Remote instrument troubleshooting and operation is being used routinely by most national laboratory equipment manufactures to minimize the time spent by maintenance personnel on service calls. Our application to satellite communication is a relatively modest step forward. This could and should be adapted to the AMEDD remote clinics located in the Pacific rim as well as the western United States where company service reps are not always available and, in most cases, a sponsoring Medical Center has responsibility for maintaining services.

PI's Evaluation: Deliverable is on schedule, per Proposal

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## Expenditures

Element of Resource (EOR)	3Q FY 01 Apr 1 - May 31	4Q FY 01 Jun 1 - Sep 30
Travel 2100	0.00	0.00
Shipping 2200	0.00	0.00
Rent & Communications 2200	0.00	0.00
Contract for Services 2500	0.00	26,472.40
Supplies 2600	0.00	8,293.28
Equipment 3100	0.00	194,056.61

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## **Financial Narrative**

**We are within budget and have executed our dollars within the FY03 constraints.**

**PI's Evaluation: Budget and Resources in line with Proposal**

**\* \* \* END OF REPORT \* \* \***